PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PD/4-33610A/NFI	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below		
International application No. PCT/EP2005/001168	International filing date (day/month/year) 04 February 2005 (04.02.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 February 2004 (05.02.2004)		
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237				
Applicant NOVARTIS AG				

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis. 1(a).				
2.	This REPORT consists of a tot	RT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.			
	In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.				
3.	3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:				
•	Box No. I	Basis of the report			
	Box No. II	Priority			
	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability			
	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention			
	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
•	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited			
	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application			
	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application			
4.	4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44his.3(c) and 93his.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44his.2).				
			issuance of this report ust 2006 (07.08.2006)		
			J _£E		

Date of issuance of this report 07 August 2006 (07.08.2006)

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70

Date of issuance of this report 07 August 2006 (07.08.2006)

Authorized officer

Yolaine Cussac

e-mail: pt11@wipo.int

Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)